



United States Attorney District of New Jersey

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LANDISVILLE, NEW JERSEY MAN CHARGED WITH ASSAULTING A MIZPAH, NEW JERSEY POST OFFICE EMPLOYEE

CAMDEN, N.J. – A Landisville, N.J., man appeared in Camden federal court this morning after being charged with the alleged July 14, 2010, assault of a postal employee during the robbery of a post office in Mizpah, N.J., United States Attorney Paul J. Fishman announced.

Lord T. Beyah, 47, a/k/a “Chance Burgess,” is charged by Complaint with one count of assaulting a postal employee with intent to rob a United States post office. He was detained pending his transfer to federal custody following this morning’s proceeding before United States Magistrate Judge Joel Schneider.

According to the Complaint filed in this case:

In the early afternoon of July 14, 2010, a man later identified as Lord Beyah entered the post office, leaped over the counter, displayed a knife, and demanded that a postal employee – the sole employee working at the post office at the time – give him money. After the postal employee gave Beyah all the money in her cash drawer, Beyah demanded that the employee open the post office’s safe. The postal employee opened the safe, then attempted to flee the post office by running out the rear door.

Beyah ran after and caught the employee, forcibly dragging her back into the post office and threatening her with a knife. After a struggle, the employee was able to pull the knife blade out of the knife and use it to stab Beyah two times in his lower left leg. Beyah then handcuffed the employee to a piece of postal equipment and fled the post office. Ultimately, the employee was able to free herself and call 911.

If convicted of the assault charge, Beyah faces a maximum potential penalty of 25 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

U.S. Attorney Fishman credited postal inspectors of the United States Postal Inspection Service, under the direction of Postal Inspector in Charge Karen Higgins in Philadelphia; along with the Township of Hamilton Police Department, under the direction of Chief Stacy V. Tappeiner, and the New Jersey State Police, under the direction of Superintendent Colonel Rick Fuentes, for the work leading to the identification and apprehension of the defendant.

The government is represented by Assistant United States Attorney Matthew T. Smith of the U.S. Attorney’s Office Criminal Division.

The charge and allegations contained in the Complaint are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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Defense counsel: Christopher O'Malley, Esq., Federal Public Defender, Camden